



Lions District 2-A2 Newsletter



Issue 8 – February 2024

Changing the World

District 2-A2 Cabinet

District Governor

Josh Overfelt

Josh.overfelt@gmail.com

Del Rio San Felipe Lions
Club

830.734.6219

1st Vice-District Governor

Rose Ann Barajas

RABrunner64@gmail.com

SA Edgewood Lions Club

2nd Vice-District Governor

Nanette Patton

GI.Jade.1ea@gmail.com

SA Windcrest Lions Club

Immediate Past District Governor

Steve Mays

texasrays@gmail.com

La Vernia Lions Club

210.380.6572

Fellow Lions of District 2-A2,

February is here and we have 4 months left in the Lion year. As we begin the final stretch of the marathon, I want to again thank you for all you do for your clubs and your communities.

As you are most likely aware, the District Convention has been moved to San Antonio and will take place at the Menger Hotel. As I mentioned in my video announcement, the move was and is not a result of anything the Eagle Pass clubs did. If anything, the clubs did all I asked to put together a convention. Unfortunately, the political situation changed dramatically in Eagle Pass, and I had to make a difficult decision. Regardless I invite you to San Antonio for an amazing weekend of Lionism and awards!

Mission 1.5 is in effect through 2027 with the goal of growing our global membership to 1.5 million members. If you sponsor a new lion during this time you will receive a special Mission 1.5 Sponsor pin and your member will receive a special Mission 1.5 new lion pin. I have the pins so please let me know when you need them and how many of each.



LCIF is our global foundation that helps us in times of crisis or disaster. To date, 2-A2 has raised \$4,358.00 with 19 clubs participating. I am issuing a challenge to all clubs. If we can raise \$25,000 for LCIF by June 30, 2024, I will do something crazy at the first cabinet meeting in July 2024.

Also, many clubs have thousands of dollars in Melvin Jones Fellow funds sitting in their accounts at LCIF. You can redeem those and give out MJF or Progressive MJF awards to deserving members. If you want to know how much you have, email me and I will let you know.

Continue doing amazing work and remember to recruit members who will help spread our mission of From the Rio Grande to the Alamo, WE SERVE!

Remember:

From The Rio Grande to The Alamo, WE SERVE!!

Lion Josh

District Governor Josh Overfelt (Del Rio San Felipe)

Josh.overfelt@gmail.com

(830) 734-6219

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Cabinet and Convention Dates:

District Convention	April 18-20th	San Antonio, Texas
---------------------	---------------	--------------------

Club and Other Events:

Valentines Games Night	February 10th	Italian Society Hall San Antonio, Texas
------------------------	---------------	--

West Side Lions Pancake Breakfast	February 17th	Madonna Center San Antonio, Texas
-----------------------------------	---------------	--------------------------------------

LSRF Stride for Sight 5K	March 30th	Comanche Park San Antonio, Texas
--------------------------	------------	-------------------------------------

Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament	August 1st	Lady Bird Johnson GC Fredericksburg, Texas
----------------------------------	------------	---

Texas Lions Camp Stay and Play (Eclipse)	August 4-8th	Texas Lions Camp Kerrville, Texas
--	--------------	--------------------------------------

Tell Us What You Are Doing

We want our District newsletter to feature more of the wonderful work being done by each of the Lions Clubs in District 2-A2. Please send in articles about your service projects, fundraisers, installations, and member recognitions for inclusion in the monthly newsletter to newsletter@district2a2.org. Articles must be submitted by the 28th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

Fellow Lions,

Make your plans now to join with your Fellow Lions and celebrate our 65th. Anniversary of our District. Come to San Antonio, a World Heritage Site, which is the seventh largest city in our Nation. Enjoy all that San Antonio has to offer while staying at the Historic Menger Hotel located next to The Alamo.

Our District Governor and your Convention Committee are making plans to showcase all of your Service Accomplishments during this year. Our celebration will not be complete without you so start your registration process by clicking on the Hotel link below:

<https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=16589&nights=2&checkin=4/18/2024&group=041824LIONSDI&lang=en-us>



ALAMO HEIGHTS LIONS CLUB & TEXAS LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING CTR
Free Postage to Mail Eyeglasses to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center
by Lion Norman Fulkerson

The USPS Publication 347 dated October 2015 spells out how to mail glasses for recycling to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center in Midland, Texas.

The publication states that individuals and noncommercial organizations which serve eligible persons (i.e., those who require glasses). No advertising is allowed.

The box or envelope must NOT be sealed. The boxes must have the words "FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR THE HANDICAPPED" in the upper right corner of the address side of the envelope or parcel where postage is normally placed. The words may be printed, rubber stamped or handwritten. See the form below.

The mail is not considered a specific class of mail. If you wish to insure the item, you may pay the required insurance fee.

The Postmaster at my Post Office says they will accept boxes up to the size of a Banker's box or the size of the box that comes with 10 reams of paper. I have found the 10 ream paper box weighs about 20 pounds when full of eyeglasses.

You may use the form below by cutting off the bottom of this page to use as the required label.

FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR HANDICAPPED MAILING

From: _____

FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND OR
THE HANDICAPPED

To: Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center
2550 Flynt Ave.
Midland, TX 79701

Note From Our Second Vice-District Governor Nanette Patton:



District 2-A2 kicked off the new year with charter night of the San Antonio Yellow Rose Lions Club on January 5th. What a fun night!

The event had a Great Gatsby theme to honor when our association of Lions clubs became international. Even though Melvin Jones told members of his local Chicago business club they should reach beyond their local business issues and address

the betterment of their communities and the world such that an organizational meeting was held on June 7, 1917, in Chicago and the “Association of Lions Clubs” was created, it wasn’t until 1920 when Border Cities Lions Clubs (Windsor in March, Toronto in May, and Hamilton in June) in Windsor, Canada, was established that our association truly became international.

It was a blast to dress up flapper style and get into the spirit of the celebration. Shout out to Club President Alex Hernandez for taking on the challenge of starting up and leading a new club. This is a specialty club comprised of mostly Veterans. With the help of their sponsoring club, my home club the Windcrest Lions, our Global Membership Team coordinator, PDG Janie Garza, and Guiding Lion, Lion Marlene Patton, the club should be off to a strong start!

Adding San Antonio Yellow Rose Lions Club to our district club line up is just the beginning of a concerted effort in our district and across our association to increase membership as part of a larger campaign called **Mission 1.5**. Let’s talk about this campaign in more detail:

- **What:** It is our association’s drive to get from about 1.4 million members to 1.5 million members around the world.
- **Why:** To meet the growing needs in our communities, we need to form new clubs and invite new members to serve with us. To make sure we are always there and ready to serve, we need to grow.
 1. Increased capacity to serve
 2. Greater diversity and inclusion
 3. Increased advocacy for change, locally and globally
 4. Increased member benefits
 5. Make us stronger at every level of Lions
- **When:** This is a multi-year campaign that started July 11, 2023, and doesn't end until July 1, 2027.
- **Where:** This campaign is happening at your club and everywhere that Lions around the world serve.
- **Who:** Each and every one of us has a role to play in this campaign.
- **How:** 3-pronged strategy
 1. [Chartering New Clubs](#) – We also refer to this as “extension.”
 - Traditional
 - Campus Club
 - Leo-Lion Club
 - Specialty Club
 - Virtual Club
 - Club Branch – This one is my favorite as you only need 5 people to start a branch club versus 20 for a stand-alone club. Furthermore, the parent club can more easily mentor the branch club to ensure its sustainability. Then once the branch club has 20 people, it can break off and become its own stand-alone club.
 2. Recruiting and Onboarding New Members into Our Existing Clubs: Every Lions needs to be inviting other people to join our association. Think [Just Ask](#).
 3. Retention: Closing “the back door” to keep our club members engaged and not wanting to resign. We do this through our regular service activities. Happy club members don’t leave. Think the [“Your Club, Your Way.”](#)

Mission 1.5 is a marathon, not a sprint, and we as a district should be adding ~2 clubs every Lions year to do our part to reach 1.5 million members in our association by 7/1/2027.

The holiday slowdown is over, and the district has a lot of events coming up in the near term, so mark your calendars:

- Texas Lions Camp 75th Birthday Banquet on 2/3
- Lions Sight Research Foundation [Valentine Games Night](#) on 2/10
- [Texas Lions Camp workdays](#) on 3/2 and 5/4
- [Lions Sight Research Foundation Stride for Sight](#) on 3/30
- [Texas Lions Camp Stay and Play](#) to take in the solar eclipse 4/4-4/8

Lion Nanette

2nd Vice-District Governor

Nanette Patton

GI.Jade.1ea@gmail.com



 **TLC Chairman's Chatter**
Happy Birthday TLC 



The World is Changing

In case you hadn't noticed, this is no longer our grandparents' world. In fact, for many of us, it is not even our parents' world – the one we grew up in.... and it certainly is no longer Melvin Jones' Lions Club world. Every thing is changing, and our Lions Clubs have to change, too. The ones that haven't are gone away or soon will. At Texas Lions Camp, things are no different. Summer 2024 looks very little like summer camp 1968, when I worked there. Heck, it doesn't even look the same as just 5 years ago.

Many things have come into play to cause this, but the 2 most glaring are COVID and random acts of violence. For both reasons many parents are very reluctant to have their kids hundreds of miles away for a week. Many are reluctant until they can see the camp leadership and operations for themselves. They want to be assured that their kids will be safe, properly cared for, and will have proper medical facilities available.

However, Stephen Mabry, our President & CEO, has assembled a very creative & hard-working team of people, and together they have developed new ideas to help TLC keep up with this changing world. When COVID prevented bringing campers to camp, they created "TLC2U". Boxes of fun supplies and crafts were sent to the campers' homes, and TLC "zoomed" its way through the summer. When faced with a 2nd summer without normal camp, they started **Family Camp**, by setting up each bunkhouse wing to house one family – mom, dad, siblings, even grandparents got to come and experience the "**all can do**" attitude, that our campers experience at TLC. Each family participates as a family in the various camp activities. That program has been received so well, it has now become party of the regular summer program.

Some of you have been asking about the newest addition to our summer camping options: **Residential Day Camp**, which in 2024 will have a trial run. Families will come and stay on campus with their camper, and each day only the campers will participate in normal camp activities. The families will be able to relax in the cabins, tour around Kerrville, or play in the Guadalupe River. At the end of the day the campers will rejoin the family where they will stay in their own cabin. The campers get the special benefit of interacting with the other campers, while the parents' are able to relax or go exploring without sending their child hundreds of miles away from them.

Certainly the camp, like the Lion on our Lions International logo (which looks to both the past & the future) is looking to the past as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary; but as you can see TLC is also looking to the future and making the changes needed to meet the needs of our campers in 2024 the birth year of our 2nd 75 years & beyond.

We are now in January and camper sign up is already started for summer 2024. Let's all join the camp & be that "Lion looking forward" and fill up our camp this year. (I've attached the summer camping dates again) **Let's each sign up a camper & make some dreams come true!**

Go be a Dream Catcher!

PCC Tom Blase, TLC Chairman

Texas Lions Camp

Summer Camp Schedule – 2024

1. June 2-8, 2024 - HC 1 (Friday ✓ out) – 1st
2. June 9-15, 2024 - HC 2 (Friday ✓ out) – 2nd
3. June 16-18, 2024 - Residential Day Camp – 1st
4. June 20-22, 2024 - Residential Day Camp – 2nd
5. June 23-29, 2024 – Camp David and Down (Friday ✓ out)
6. June 30-July 6, 2024 – Diabetes Camp (Friday ✓ out) – 1st
7. July 7-13, 2024 - Diabetes Camp (Friday ✓ out) – 2nd
8. July 14-20, 2024 - Camp Discovery
9. July 21-23, 2024 - Family Camp – 1st
10. July 25-27, 2024 - Family Camp – 2nd
11. July 28-30, 2024 - Family Camp – 3rd
12. Aug 1-2, 2024 - Family Camp – 4th

How to Send a Child to Texas Lions Camp – by Camp Director Chris Ryan

The 2024 schedule for Texas Lions Camp (TLC) has been announced! Please see the schedule at www.lionscamp.com.

The schedule has some exciting and innovative features to meet the expanding needs of the TLC family. President & CEO, Stephen Mabry, stated that for the first time in TLC's history, they will pilot an exciting new concept in camping, by combining family camp with the residential youth camp. This new program will be called "Residential Family Camp."

Camp Discovery will be returning to TLC after a five-year hiatus. It is a one-of-a-kind experience for children who have cancer.

How to send a child to camp-

1. Lions can be a huge help by **finding campers** to attend TLC. This can be done by contacting local rehabilitation centers, doctors, associations, and school principals and nurses.
2. You will want to **visit with parents of prospective campers**. Give them a TLC brochure or promotional flyer. If you do not have one, share the website with them. Tell them about the wonderful opportunities that await their child!
3. **Application help** - Direct parents to lionscamp.com to apply. *****Online registration for camp opens on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.** That will be here before we know it.

The application process involves the submittal of an in-depth application that includes:

- 1) Contact Information
- 2) Physical and Doctor's Permission
- 3) Lion Sponsor
- 4) Dietary requirements
- 5) Insurance information, and
- 6) Legal Waiver & Permission to Treat.

Parents can call TLC at (830) 896-8500 if they have any questions about the application process. The Lion sponsor should follow up with the family to ensure that all required forms are submitted.

4. **Arrange Transportation.** Transportation to and from the camp is the responsibility of the sponsoring Lions Club.

TLC is an amazing place where campers gain confidence and are accepted for who they are. They are not defined by their disabilities. Children are invited to make friends, have fun, and get involved in a safe and supportive environment.

As a Lion in the state of Texas, you make a positive difference in the life of a child at TLC. Thank you for your support of the camp. I hope you can help find a camper to attend this life-changing experience!

If you have questions about TLC or the above information, please contact District 2-A2 Camp Director Mary Ann Mays at mamays@gmail.com or me at chrisr1475@sbcglobal.net.

**A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT the
2024 Save Our Sight / Stride for Sight Campaign
to Benefit the Projects of your**



Lions Sight Research Foundation

**ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE
VALENTINE GAMES NIGHT**



9 Chances to WIN

Only 200 Tickets to be Sold

1st Prize \$ 5,000 - 2nd Prize \$ 1,000

3rd & 4th Prizes \$ 500/each - 5th & 6th Prizes \$ 250/each

7th Prize \$ 200 and 2 additional \$100 prizes

\$100.00 donation

For online tickets & payment go to www.lionssightresearch.org

See "Donations" tab: "Raffle"

Checks made payable to: Lions Sight Research Foundation

For information: lsrf.sam@gmail.com or (210) 326 3915

Proceeds benefit the Lions Sight Research Foundation

Drawing Feb 10, 2024 at "Valentine Games Night"
need not be present to win





VALENTINE Games Night

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Christopher Columbus Italian Society Hall
201 Piazza Italia San Antonio, Texas 78207

FUN STARTS at 5:00pm



A Fundraising Event of the District 2-A2 Lions Sight Research Foundation

Your Reservation entitles you to be a **PLAYER** in our **VALENTINE CASINO** where you can **WIN** at **BLACKJACK TEXAS HOLD 'EM CRAPS ROULETTE** or the **MONEY WHEEL** and there's our **ADULT BEVERAGE RING TOSS HEADS & TAILS 50/50 RAFFLE**

A Fun Evening with **Great Food and Lots of Door Prizes**



RESERVED Tables for Eight - \$500.00 Donation General Seating - \$50.00 per attendee

Cash Bar—Beer and Wine, Set Ups for BYOB

Checks payable to the Lions Sight Research Foundation

For Online Reservations: www.lionsightresearch.org - "DONATIONS" Tab

For Other Reservations or information: PDG Sam Pantusa call: 210 326 3915 or email: lsrf.sam@gmail.com

We'll also be Drawing the Names of ALL the WINNERS of our



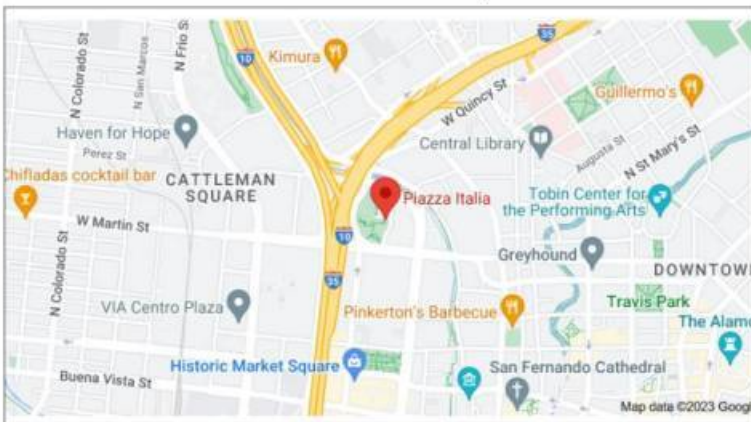
Sweetheart Raffle

gift card giveaway

7 Chances to WIN ONLY 200 to be SOLD—\$100 Donation

1st Prize \$ 5,000 - 2nd Prize \$ 1,000 - 3rd & 4th Prizes \$ 500/each

5th & 6th Prizes \$ 250/each - 7th Prize \$ 200



Valentine Games Night and the Sweetheart Raffle are fundraising elements of the 2024 Save Our Sight / Stride for Sight Campaign with net proceeds directed toward LSRF Special Projects and other needs of the Lions Eye Health Program.

**Christopher Columbus Italian Society Hall
201 Piazza Italia San Antonio, Texas 78207
Just off the IH 10 and IH 35 Interchange and
W. Martin St, north west of Downtown**



SA West Side Lions Pancake Breakfast

When: Saturday, February 17, 2024

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: Madonna Neighborhood Center,
1906 Castroville Rd, San Antonio, Texas 78237

Cost: \$9

All you can eat pancakes, 2 sausage patties, orange slices, coffee, orange juice



STRIDE FOR SIGHT 5K

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

Comanche County Park
Pavilion 2
2600 Rigsby Avenue
San Antonio, TX

8 a.m. - Race Day Registration Opens
9 a.m. - Opening Ceremony

**REGISTER
ONLINE**

bit.ly/SFS2024
or
SolersSports.com

FREE Breakfast Tacos
FREE Kid's Fun Run
AND MORE!

New for 2024 - All categories can create or join a team!

\$50 Virtual Runner/Walker
\$35 5K Runner/Walker
\$25 Sleep Walker
Team*: \$25 Team Walker
(*Teams should have 5 or more members)



Donor Family team discount
available to team walkers.
Contact the eye bank
or Lisa@SolersSports.com
for discount code

For additional information
or questions, contact
Sam Pantusa, (210) 326-3915
or lsrf.sam@gmail.com





Join as a Sponsor!

Lions Sight Research Foundation and San Antonio Eye Bank are excited to host the 2024 Stride for Sight 5K Run/Walk. Together the organizations are focused on **Saving Sight, Changing Lives.**

Our mission in hosting the event is to encourage regular healthy vision screenings and eye health practices, as well as, to educate and inspire about Donate Life - Gift of Sight that can be given through cornea donation and transplantation.

On Saturday, March 30th, we'll celebrate the 11th year of the family and pet friendly run/walk event at Comanche County Park in San Antonio, Texas. Last year our event concluded with over 500 participants from throughout South Texas.

Your sponsorship will make a difference for hundreds of individuals and families impacted by the partnering organizations and will also align your brand as a company committed to supporting our mission.

SPONSOR

Company/Organization: _____

Primary Contact: _____ Title: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

YES!

I'd like to become a sponsor

All checks should be made payable to:
Lions Sight Research Foundation
 with notation **2024 Stride for Sight**
 Mail to: Lions Sight Research Foundation
 4502 Centerview, Suite 120, San Antonio, TX 78228

Online sponsorship payments steps:
 Go to www.LionsSightResearch.org, select tab labeled **donation**, select option **Stride for Sight 5k**
 Note: Please enter in the [What is this payment for] box on the pay page specifically what your payment is for

For more information, please contact a representative listed below

Sam Pantusa
 Chief Operating Officer, Lions Sight Research Foundation
lsrf.sam@gmail.com, (210) 326-3915

Simera Nichols
 Director of Partner Relations, San Antonio Eye Bank
simera.nichols@saeyebank.org, (210) 424-0176

Stride for Sight 5K

March 30, 2024

Sponsorship Benefits & In-Kind Donation Options

Title Sponsor (\$5,000)

- Opportunity to speak for 2-3 minutes during open ceremony and officiate start of the race
- Your company banners, logos and/or products displayed prominently at event stage and at race start/finish line
- Your company logo featured on the front and back of event race T-shirt*
- Your company logo featured on event 5k online registration site
- One 30-60 second video or Livestream, featuring your representative in social media promotion leading up to the event & add'l filming of representative day of event
- Your company name mentioned in event press release and in any day of event news TV or radio interviews
- 15 complimentary race registrations and T-shirts
- 5 or more mentions in social media promotion leading up to the event
- **Plus!** All the benefits from the sponsorship levels below.

Lionheart Sponsor (\$2,500)

- One 30-60 second video or Livestream, featuring your representative in social media promotion leading up to the event & add'l filming of representative day of event
- Your company name mentioned in event press release and in any day of event news TV or radio interviews
- 10 complimentary race registrations and T-shirts
- 5 or more mentions in social media promotion leading up to the event
- **Plus!** All the benefits from the sponsorship levels below.

*Deadline for logo inclusion on race T-shirt is February 26, 2024

**Deadline for logo inclusion on postcard is January 5, 2024



Hero Sponsor (\$1,000) or KidZone Area Sponsor

- One 30-60 second video or Livestream, featuring your representative in social media promotion leading up to the event & add'l filming of representative day of event
- Your company name mentioned in event press release and in any day of event news TV or radio interviews
- 5 complimentary race registrations and T-shirts
- Social media promotion leading up to the event
- **KidZone Area Sponsor** - signage prominently featured at Kid's Fun Run and activities area
- **Plus!** All the benefits from the sponsorship levels below.

Legacy Sponsor (\$500)

- Your company logo placed on the back of event race T-shirt*
- Your company logo placed on 2,000+ promotional postcards distributed to homes throughout Bexar County**
- Your company logo displayed at water station
- Exhibitor space at the event with the option to pass out flyers / ads / coupons
- 2 complimentary race registrations and T-shirts
- Opportunity to provide items for race bags or at registration area
- Associated with event in which email blast is sent to 16,500+ South Texas area runner's list through Solers Sports

Companion Sponsor (\$250)

- Your company name placed on the back of event race T-shirt*
- Opportunity to provide items for race bags or at registration area
- Associated with event in which email blast is sent to 16,500+ South Texas area runner's list through Solers Sports

Friend Sponsor (\$100)

- Your company name placed on the back of event race T-shirt*
- Opportunity to provide items for race bags or at registration area

In-Kind Donation Opportunities:

- Bottled Water (500)
- Breakfast Tacos (500)
- Sausages (500)
- Kid's Art Supplies
- And more !

For further information, please contact:

Sam Pantusa - Lions Sight Research Foundation, lsrf.sam@gmail.com, (210) 326-3915
Simera Nichols - San Antonio Eye Bank, simera.nichols@saeyebank.org, (210) 424-0176

All checks should be made payable to:

Lions Sight Research Foundation
with notation **2024 Stride for Sight**

Mail to: Lions Sight Research Foundation
4502 Centerview, Suite 120, San Antonio, TX 78228

Online sponsorship payments steps:

Go to www.LionsSightResearch.org, select tab labeled **donation**, select option **Stride for Sight 5k**
Note: Please enter in the [What is this payment for] box on the pay page specifically what your payment is for

Judson ISD Board Recognition for Screening Assistance



Lions in vests serving the Judson ISD schools from (left to right)—Lions Ken Book, Mary Ann Mays, Steve Mays, Rose Mary Paletta, PDG Janie Garza, Lions Jack Dugas, Mike Pardoe, Sylvia Madero, Lisa Werkowitch, and Debbie Book. Amy Stevens (Director of Health Services), Christopher Garza (District Nurse) and Dr. Milton Fields III (Superintendent).

Late in the 2023-24 screening season, Judson ISD contacted the Children’s Services Board (CSB) for help with vision and hearing at their elementary schools. Our screening team had never screened these campuses before. We screened 14 of their elementary campuses from the end of November through January 18, 2024. The number of screenings we conducted was:

Vision	2,696
Hearing	2,566

Our Lions contributed 256.5 man hours. With an average of \$25 for each Vision Screening and \$50 for each Hearing Screening, the total saved by Judson ISD was \$195,700.

For the 41 remaining school campuses, we screened.

Vision	6,277
Hearing	6,349

With a total man hours of 902, the total saved by the remaining 41 campuses was \$474,375.

More schools are contacting the CSB each year. From 2022-23 to 2023-24, we screened 5,883 more children. In order to provide the Lions services needed, we need more Lions to get certified and help us screen.

After 12 years of screening thousands of kids each year, our equipment is wearing out and needs to be repaired or possibly replaced. If you would like more information about helping the Children's Services Board provide these services to District 2-A2 schools, contact Lion Ken Book, chairman, at:

Kbook0@outlook.com or text to 210-744-2080.

Alamo Heights Lions Club and Alamo City Lions Club

A Thank You for Our Christmas Donation



Greetings CAM Fam!!!

Despite the struggles we had resulting from our warehouse fire in August, our 2023 CAM Emergency Christmas Store was our biggest and best one yet!

The first two weeks of December were spent signing families up and transforming the front end of the warehouse into a shopping experience for them. The following two weeks were a whirlwind of "shopping" for the parents. Each child was allowed two gifts, two stocking stuffers, and one book. Families also received wrapping paper, gift bags, decorations, and ornaments.



**1627 Children had a happier holiday because of you!!!!
(over 3,300 gifts distributed)**

So many families were touched by your love and generosity this past holiday season!

To those of you who organized toy drives and shopped for those special gifts THANK YOU!

To those of you who donated funds and gift cards THANK YOU!

To those of you who donated holiday décor and wrapping paper THANK YOU!

To those of you who interviewed and registered all the families THANK YOU!

To those of you who transformed our warehouse into a Christmas wonderland THANK YOU!

And finally, to our CAM Elves who helped the parent's pick out just the right toys, THANK YOU!



Everything we do here at CAM is possible because of your commitment to helping the families we serve!

Wishing you many blessings in 2024!



How will you share your Harvest?

"When you harvest the crops on your land, do not cut all the way to the corners of your field. Don't pick up the grain that falls on the ground. Leave it for the poor..." Leviticus 23:22

Alamo Heights Lions Club - Christmas event with BWA

Lion Fred spreading goodwill and Christmas cheer to our unsheltered community.



Texas Lions Camp Is Celebrating its Diamond 75th Anniversary – Party Time!

Texas Lions Camp (TLC) has been serving children and improving their quality of life since 1949. As lions, you all play an important role in supporting the camp.

On April 4, 2024, TLC will be celebrating the diamond anniversary of its founding. That will be 75 years of service! To commemorate this special event, there will be events taking place between February and April in 2024. This message is being sent out early so you can mark your calendars!

TLC's Birthday Party will be celebrated at the Lions State Level, in conjunction with the Past District Governor's Association banquet. It will be on Saturday, **February 3, 2024**, at 6:30 p.m. at Texas Lions Camp. Past International President, Doug Alexander, will be on hand to provide a keynote address.

The **TLC Camper & Counselor Homecoming** will be on **March 22-24, 2024**, at Texas Lions Camp. Times: TBA. The campers and counselors are remarkable people!

There will be a **Chamber of Commerce Wine & Cheese Mixer** on Thursday, **March 21, 2024**, at TLC. Time: TBA

An **Open House** will be on Friday-Sunday, **April 4-7, 2024**, at TLC. Times TBA.

A **TLC Star Party** will take place on Saturday, **April 6, 2024**, from 4-9 p.m., at the Kerr County Youth Exhibit Center in Kerrville. This will feature country music singer and songwriter Eric Paslay.

Make your plans to be on-hand to enjoy a front-row seat to see the **Total Solar Eclipse** at TLC on Monday, **April 8, 2024**. It should be a spectacular event!

Happy Birthday, Texas Lions Camp!

If you have questions about TLC or the above information, please contact District 2-A2 Camp Director Mary Ann Mays at mamays@gmail.com or Camp Director Chris Ryan at chrisr1475@sbcglobal.net.



TEXAS LIONS CAMP

LOCATED ON LAND ONCE OWNED BY KERRVILLE FOUNDER JOSHUA BROWN, THIS HAS BEEN THE SITE OF REHABILITATIVE FACILITIES SINCE THE 1920s, WHEN THE AMERICAN LEGION ESTABLISHED A SANITORIUM HERE, FOLLOWED BY A UNITED STATES VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL IN 1925. IN 1948, AS A NATIONWIDE POLIO EPIDEMIC RAGED, LOCAL LION JACK ROE, WORKING WITH THE KERRVILLE LIONS CLUB, PROMOTED THE CONCEPT OF A SPECIAL CAMP FOR CHILDREN AFFLICTED WITH THE DISEASE. A SOCIAL WORKER WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE, ROE HAD SEEN HANDICAPPED CHILDREN TURNED AWAY FROM OTHER SUMMER CAMPS, AND IN RESPONSE HE MADE IT HIS MISSION TO CREATE A PLACE WHERE THEY COULD EXPERIENCE THE JOYS OF NATURE AT A CAMP DESIGNED FOR THEIR UNIQUE NEEDS.

ROE AND THE LOCAL LIONS CLUB MEMBERS WORKED WITH OTHER CLUBS AROUND TEXAS TO PROMOTE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CAMP, AND IN 1949 THEY RECEIVED ENDORSEMENT FROM THE LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION. A STATEWIDE FUNDRAISING EFFORT AND THE ASSISTANCE OF THEN-U.S. SEN. LYNDON B. JOHNSON LED TO THE PURCHASE OF 504 ACRES OF LAND AT THIS SITE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN 1950. THE CAMP OFFICIALLY OPENED ON JUNE 8, 1953, WITH 40 CAMPERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FORMAL DEDICATION CELEBRATION ON JULY 3, 1953. THE CAMP ALSO PROVIDED TRAINING FACILITIES FOR CLIENTS OF THE TEXAS COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND FROM 1958 TO 1984, AND SINCE 1971 HAS INCLUDED SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH DIABETES. IT CELEBRATED A MILESTONE IN 2003, MARKING SERVICE TO A TOTAL OF 50,000 CHILDREN SINCE ITS OPENING.

THE TEXAS LIONS CAMP HAS SERVED AS A PLACE OF EDUCATION AND RESPITE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY. ITS PROGRAMS, STILL SUPPORTED BY LIONS CLUBS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, REFLECT THE LIONS MOTTO "WE SERVE" BY PROVIDING CAMPERS WITH EDUCATION, ENTERTAINMENT AND MEMORIES TO LAST THEIR LIFETIMES.

(2005)

31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament

TITLE SPONSOR



JAMES AVERY
Forging Hope

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT TEXAS LIONS CAMP

TLC is tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S.—Donations are tax deductible—see your tax professional for details.



August 1, 2024

8:00 am Shotgun Start

Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course
Fredericksburg, TX

All GIFTS will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000
in 2023-2024 by **James Avery Artisan Jewelry®**
For more information: www.lionscamp.com.

Sponsor One or More Holes

For a one time donation of \$100 per hole, individuals, clubs
associations & corporations may sponsor a hole(s). All
sponsors of the tournament will be recognized on signage
and publications on location and on the Texas Lions Camp
website: www.lionscamp.com. **Deadline to ensure recogni-
tion/publication is July 12, 2024.**

Please make checks payable to Texas Lions Camp.

***Children Can...
With TLC™***

**Come Play and
make a Kid's Day
in 2024!**

For more information or to download
player registration forms go to
www.lionscamp.com

Name _____

Address _____

City / State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Club _____ District _____

Email: _____

Credit Card: MC ____ Visa ____ Discover ____ Amount: _____

CC#: _____ Expiration: ____ / ____ CVC _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

MAIL TO: TEXAS LIONS CAMP
PO Box 290247 Kerrville, TX 78029

**James Avery Artisan Jewelry
provides \$50,000 Challenge**
to celebrate 75th Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp
Named Title Sponsor for 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament

Kerrville, Texas - James Avery Artisan Jewelry has issued a \$50,000 challenge-matching grant to help commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp and support children with special medical conditions attending Summer Camp 2024. Every gift designated for the 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. With this challenge, the company has also been named the Title Sponsor for the 2024 Golf tournament.

"Texas Lions Camp (TLC) is excited that James Avery Artisan Jewelry has agreed to help TLC celebrate our Diamond anniversary and participate with our organization again in 2023-2024 and invest in our mission by offering this exciting challenge opportunity," said President & CEO of TLC, Stephen S. Mabry.

James Avery's Chief Executive Officer John McCullough stated, "For 75 years, the Lions of Texas and TLC have introduced over 84,000 children to the 'CAN DO' philosophy and encouraged them to reach for new horizons and celebrate exciting, first-time experiences. Just as we forge silver and gold to craft jewelry, we are forging hope through our support of nonprofit organizations in the communities where we live and work. We are proud to encourage donors across Texas to partner with us in supporting the beauty that Texas Lions Camp offers to children and their families through this unique and educational summer camp experience."

About James Avery Artisan Jewelry®

About James Avery Artisan Jewelry® – James Avery is a vertically integrated, family-owned company located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. We offer finely crafted jewelry designs for men and women in sterling silver, 14K and 18K gold, bronze and gemstones. James Avery jewelry is designed in the Texas Hill Country, with more than 90 percent of our pieces crafted in Kerrville, Comfort, Hondo and Corpus Christi, Texas using the finest materials sourced worldwide. We are a multi-channel retailer with over 120 James Avery stores in four states. Our jewelry is also available at JamesAvery.com, over 250 Dillard's locations and at Dillards.com and at 37 Von Maur locations and VonMaur.com. You can also find our designs at airport stores in Austin, Houston and Nashville, as well as select Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) locations.

Harry Wickersham 31st Annual Golf Tournament

For 31 years, Texas Lions Camp (TLC) has sponsored an annual Golf tournament to help support camp operations. More about the history of this Golf Tournament and the Lions that helped make it become a reality may be found on our website (<https://lionscamp.com/Wickersham.html>). The event now raises \$150,000 annually and has cumulatively produced more than \$2 million over the past 30 years. Special thanks to all who have helped make this fund-raiser such a success. The 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament will be held on Thursday, August 1, 2024 and will be hosted once again by the Fredericksburg Lions Club at Lady Bird Johnson Golf Course in Fredericksburg, Texas.

Learn about Texas Lions Camp, Inc.

Those who are interested in learning more about and/or contributing to the work of Texas Lions Camp are invited to visit www.lionscamp.com or by emailing Milton L. Dare at milton.dare@texaslions.camp. If preferred, you may call 830-896-8500 for more information.





Date: November 2, 2023

**Contact: Milton L. Dare, FACHE
Director of Development & Major Gifts
830-896-8500**

**James Avery Artisan Jewelry provides \$50,000 Challenge
to celebrate 75th Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp**
Named Title Sponsor for 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament

*Kerrville, Texas - James Avery Artisan Jewelry has issued a \$50,000 challenge-matching grant to help commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Texas Lions Camp and support children with special medical conditions attending Summer Camp 2024. Every gift designated for the 31st Annual Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. With this challenge, the company has also been named the **Title Sponsor** for the 2024 Golf tournament.*

"Texas Lions Camp (TLC) is excited that James Avery Artisan Jewelry has agreed to help TLC celebrate our Diamond anniversary and participate with our organization again in 2023-2024 and invest in our mission by offering this exciting challenge opportunity," said President & CEO of TLC, Stephen S. Mabry.

James Avery's Chief Executive Officer John McCullough stated, "For 75 years, the Lions of Texas and TLC have introduced over 84,000 children to the 'CAN DO' philosophy and encouraged them to reach for new horizons and celebrate exciting, first-time experiences. Just as we forge silver and gold to craft jewelry, we are forging hope through our support of nonprofit organizations in the communities where we live and work. We are proud to encourage donors across Texas to partner with us in supporting the beauty that Texas Lions Camp offers to children and their families through this unique and educational summer camp experience."

Mabry added, "TLC will celebrate our Anniversary Summer Camp Season in 2024 with residential youth camps for children who have physical disabilities, cancer, Down syndrome, burn survivors, and type-1 diabetes as well as continue our highly successful family camp program. At Texas Lions Camp, we view camp as a time for campers to explore, exercise curiosity, and discover new interests and abilities. We want campers to attempt things that would normally be out of their reach, such as riding a horse, or rock climbing on our ropes course, or just being part of a team. The support of family, friends, and neighbors allows us to help some of the most amazing children share in the best summers of their lives."

About James Avery Artisan Jewelry®– James Avery is a vertically integrated, family-owned company located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. We offer finely crafted jewelry designs for men and women in sterling silver, 14K and 18K gold, bronze and gemstones. James Avery jewelry is designed in the Texas Hill Country, with more than 90 percent of our pieces crafted in Kerrville, Comfort, Hondo and Corpus Christi, Texas using the finest materials sourced worldwide. We are a multi-channel retailer with over 120 James Avery stores in four states. Our jewelry is also available at JamesAvery.com, over 250 Dillard's locations and at Dillards.com and at 37 Von Maur locations and VonMaur.com. You can also find our designs at airport stores in Austin, Houston and Nashville, as well as select Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) locations.

Follow us @jamesavery on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, as well as @jamesaveryjewelry on TikTok for new releases, trends and behind the scenes.

About the Harry Wickersham Golf Tournament – For 31 years, Texas Lions Camp has sponsored an annual Golf tournament to help support camp operations. The history of this Golf Tournament began with four Texas Lions (Lions Mike Butler, Marshall Cooper, Bruce Rickert and Harry Wickersham) coming to the Annual Board meeting of Texas Lions Camp (TLC) in Kerrville to enjoy fellowship with each other. They all loved to play golf and so what began on a \$10 per person gentlemen’s donation at the Flying L Ranch Golf Course in Bandera, Texas, has grown into a major Fundraising event which generates more than \$150,000 annually for children with special medical conditions. Other Lions heard about the golf outing and dozens joined in to play in subsequent years including Lion Ed Stebbins who was recruited to help organize the event into an annual fund-raising opportunity. He made the original presentation to the TLC Board of Directors to make the Golf Tournament an annual fund-raising event as well as recommended that the event be named in honor of Lion Harry Wickersham (who was the real golfer in the original foursome). In addition, he recruited Lion Lester Frantzen as the Tournament Director and the Fredericksburg Lions Club to help organize and operate the tournament each year.

About Texas Lions Camp, Inc.- Texas Lions Camp, Inc., provides, without charge, a camp for children with special medical conditions from the State of Texas, regardless of race, religion, or national origin. The organization was chartered as a Texas, nonprofit corporation on April 4, 1949, by the Lions Clubs of Texas and is recognized under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. The Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association and is licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services. In addition, the organization is recognized with a Four-Star rating from Charity Navigator and is an active participant on GuideStar so donors may give with confidence when furthering the mission of TLC.

Those who are interested in learning more about and/or contributing to the work of Texas Lions Camp are invited to visit www.lionscamp.com or by emailing Milton L. Dare at milton.dare@texaslions.camp. If preferred, you may also call 830-896-8500 for more information.



Sign Up, Step Up, Catch Up

For Century Club - It's "Service from the Heart"

If you aren't a member of the TLC Century Club, please "Sign Up"; if you are a member, consider "Stepping Up" to the next level; and if you were a member but dropped out, consider "Catching Up" (i.e., come back in).

What is Texas Lions Camp Century Club? It's an individual annual giving program, and as such, it is giving from your own heart, independent of Club budgets or fund raisers. It is one of the life bloods of our operating budget, that in normal times sends up to 1500 children with special needs to Texas Lions Camp each summer, and yet less than 5% of Texas Lions are members.

Who can be a Century Club Member? Anyone can be a member. You don't have to be a Lion. It can be family or friends. You can even be a non-Texan, but it is our Texas Lions who are the backbone of the Century Club.

What does it cost to be a member? You can give your gift annually, or you can give monthly. A Bronze member is \$100 (\$10 if monthly); Silver is \$250; Gold \$500; Diamond is \$1,000; & Ambassador is \$5,000. Membership automatically renews each year, so members should join with the intention of making their same gift each year or even increasing their level.

How do I enroll or Step Up? Go to www.lionscamp.com, click on "Get Involved" and go to "Donate Now". There you will find "Ways to Give". Click that open and select "Century Club". If you scroll down, you will see the option to enroll online or to download and print out the form to send to the Camp directly.

Sign Up, Step Up, Catch Up is a drive to beef up our Century Club membership for the Texas Lions Camp, as a birthday present to Texas Lions Camp on its 75th Anniversary in 2024. Today we have half the number of Texas Lions, supporting twice the number of campers at over twice the cost, as we did some 30 years ago. If we reach our goal of an increase of \$60/mo. among the members of EACH club in Texas, we will generate an additional of \$575,000 ANNUALLY, which would generate 15% of our operating budget, and help us keep serving our special children into the future.

A \$60 increase from the members of each Texas Club is doable. "Signing Up" as a new Bronze member is a \$10/mo. increase (\$100 if pd. ann.); a new Silver is \$21/mo. (\$250/yr.); a Gold is \$42/mo.(\$500); etc. Likewise, "Stepping Up" from Bronze to Silver is an \$11/mo. increase; Bronze to Gold is a \$32/mo. increase; going from Silver to Gold is a \$21/mo. increase, etc.

\$575,000/year – now that's some 75th Birthday present!

There's a saying at TLC that "ALL CAN DO". Yes, Texas Lions, \$60/mo./club. WE CAN DO IT.

Texas Lions Camp 75th Anniversary Sheath

On the next page is an order blank for special lasered & hand-tooled knife sheaths. These fit the special Case knives with handles made from rock from Texas Lions Camp, which we have been selling the last 3 years. This knife is the one shown above the sheaths on the form. If you haven't seen them, the 2 bladed knife is beautifully lasered with the Lion's & TLC's logos, along with the words "Texas Lions Camp - children can with TLC". If you are interested in the knife, you can contact Lion Ken Jobe, whose info is on the form for the knife sheaths.

The timing is critical, because (like everything else) the price of leather is going up dramatically, according to the leather tooler, and our costs will double after the 1st weekend in February. This will obviously do the same thing to our selling prices. So, if you want one or more, get your order in now. Orders dated by February 5th will be honored at the rates on the form. (The form says January 31st, but they have agreed to let the current price stand through our Feb. Council meeting in Kerrville.)

These knife sheaths have the Camp's special 75th Anniversary Logo. I know many Lions don't have the current knife and it may not be available much longer to buy. However, a new TLC 75th Anniversary edition Case knife will be coming out soon with a handle made out of wood from the camp. They will also be laser engraved on one of the blades. They will fit in these knife sheaths. So this will be a chance to get a knife sheath for either or both knives before the prices soar.

PCC Tom Blase
1st Vice-Chairman, Executive Committee
Texas Lions Camp



Serving Children Since 1949

For the benefit of

Texas Lions Camp
75th Anniversary
Case "Trapper" Style Knife Sheath

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Shipping Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Handmade and tooled by JDS Leather, Kerrville, Texas

***ATTENTION: Prices will be going up drastically for all orders after Jan., 31st, 2023. Leather prices have doubled, but JDS Leather will hold these prices until then.**

<u>Style</u>	<u>Price</u> (each)	<u># ordered</u>	<u>Extended</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>Side of Belt</u>	
				# Right	# Left
Laser Sheath	\$40*	_____	\$_____	_____	_____
Laser & Tooled Sheath	\$50*	_____	\$_____	_____	_____
Laser & Tooled Sheath w/colored logo	\$60*	_____	\$_____	_____	_____
Subtotal of All Items			\$_____		
Add \$4 per Sheath for shipping			\$_____		
Total with shipping			\$_____		

Make Checks Payable to: **District 2S1**

Mail Checks to: PDG Ken Jobe, 4749 County Road 2590, Chester, TX 75936

(Hand tooling takes time, please allow at least 10-12 weeks for shipping.)



MARDI GRAS

2nd Annual Designer Purse Bingo

MUSIC • COSTUME CONTEST • FESTIVE

6-9pm, VIP early
entrance at
5:30pm

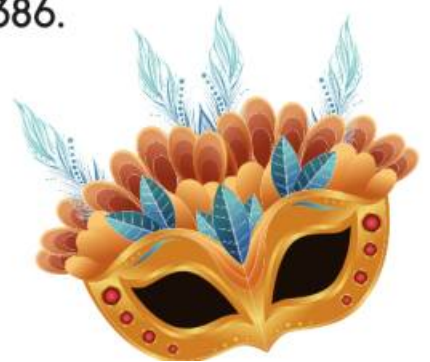
SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 24TH, 2024

La Vernia
Chamber of
Commerce Hall

Proceeds benefit the Greater La Vernia Chamber of Commerce and
La Vernia Lions Club Scholarship Funds

Tickets are available at Bard Craft Designs and Twin Creek Insurance.
\$45 in advance or \$55 at the door. All tickets include entry into the event,
a drink ticket, bingo dauber and a set of bingo game cards (one for each
game/purse). Plus, Heavy hors d'overs and desserts served throughout
the night.

Sponsorships Available, please contact Kasie Tankersley at
ktankersley@gvec.org or 830-243-1386.



2nd Annual Designer Purse Bingo

Benefiting the Greater La Vernia Chamber of Commerce and La Vernia Lions Club Scholarship Funds

Saturday, February 24th, 2024 from 6-9pm

(Doors open at 5:30pm for VIP Sponsors, doors open at 6pm for General Admission. Games start at 7pm)

\$1,000 Platinum Sponsorship---Limit 3

1 reserved table at the front for 8 tickets

SOLD OUT

Premium marketing at event and on Facebook

\$400 Silver Sponsorship

1 reserved half table for 4 tickets

VIP early entrance

Game Sponsorship

Top marketing at event and on Facebook

\$750 Gold Sponsorship

1 reserved table near the front for 8 tickets

VIP early entrance

Game Sponsorship

Premium marketing at event and on Facebook

\$200 Bronze Sponsorship

2 tickets with reserved seating

VIP Early Entrance

Marketing during event

Purse Donation (\$100 value minimum)

\$100-\$249 value receive 1 ticket with marketing at the event and on Facebook

\$250+ value will receive 2 tickets and VIP early entrance with marketing during the event and on Facebook

Door Prizes

Recognition for donation will be mentioned when prize is given away.

All tickets include entry into the event, 1 drink ticket, 1 bingo dauber and a set of bingo game cards (one for each game/purse). Plus, Heavy hors d'overs and desserts served throughout the night.

Additional drinks (beer/seltzers) will be available for purchase or BYOB your own liquor or wine.

Individual Tickets may be purchased for \$45 in advance (\$55 at the door, if not sold out)

(Requests for additional reserved seating for tickets obtained individually not as part of a sponsorship for purse donation, will not be guaranteed.)

Individual game cards specific to a game/purse will be available for purchase the night of the event for \$3. Additional full game books (one sheet for each game/purse) may be purchased for \$20, and half game books (for game 1-10 or 11-20) may be purchased for \$10.

Please submit sponsorship and donations by February 2nd, 2024. For more information, sponsorship submission, donations of purses and/or door prizes, please call or email Kasie Tankersley at

ktankersley@gvec.org or 830-243-1386.

2nd Annual Designer Purse Bingo

Benefiting the Greater La Vernia Chamber of Commerce and La Vernia Lions Club Scholarship Funds
Saturday, February 24th, 2024 from 6-9pm

(Doors open at 5:30pm for VIP Sponsors, doors open at 6pm for General Admission. Games start at 7pm)

Sponsorship/Donation Information Form

Name of Sponsor/Donor: _____

Contact Person (if different from above): _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Sponsorship Amount: _____ (if a check or cash)

Door Prize donated: _____

Purse donated: _____

(Please contact Kasie Tankersley as soon as possible if you would like to donate a purse)

If yes, what is the value of the purse? _____

(We have to report the value of the "winnings" to the Texas Lottery Commission, which has to be paid 5% of the value.)

Do you have a logo? _____ Yes _____ No

(Email logos to Kasie Tankersley at ktankersley@gvec.org)

If not, then please contact Kasie Tankersley at the email above to discuss how your sponsorship should be advertised in print. If you do not contact us, we will use your name or the name of your business.

Please mail this form along with your payment or donation to PO Box 1055, La Vernia, Texas 78121 or call 830-243-1386 to arrange for a Greater La Vernia Chamber of Commerce or La Vernia Lions Club member to pick this up from you. Thank you for your support!

Kasie Tankersley
Greater La Vernia Chamber of Commerce
President

Heather Bard
La Vernia Lions Club
President